Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of Claims

This list of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A contrast media for use in imaging an individual's anatomic segment comprising: a contrast agent in an aqueous suspension; wherein the contrast agent comprises about 0.01% w/v to about 0.2% w/v of a barium-based compound and the contrast media having a Hounsfield value from about 0 to about 50, and said contrast media further comprising 0.005% to about 70% by weight of a sugar selected from the group consisting of sorbitol, mannitol and xylitol.

2. (Previously Presented) The contrast media of claim 1, wherein the Hounsfield value is from about 5 to about 50.

3. (Original) The contrast media of claim 1, wherein the Hounsfield value is about 5 to about 45.

4. (Original) The contrast media of claim 1, wherein the Hounsfield value is about 15 to about 35.

5. (Original) The contrast media of claim 1, wherein the Hounsfield value is about 20 to about 30.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The contrast media of claim 1, wherein the concentration of the contrast agent is about 0.1% w/v [or] to about 0.2% w/v.

10. (Previously Presented)The contrast media of claim 1, wherein the concentration of the contrast agent is selected from the group consisting essential of 0.02%, 0.03%, 0.04%, 0.06%, 0.07%, 0.08%, 0.09%, 0.11%, 0.15%, 0.2%, or 0.25% w/v.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) The contrast media of claim 1, wherein the barium-based compound is barium sulfate.

13. (Withdrawn) The contrast media of claim 1, wherein the contrast agent comprises an iodine based compound.

14. (Withdrawn) The contrast media of claim 1, wherein the contrast agent comprises a gadolinium-based compound.

15. The contrast media of claim 1, further comprising a stabilizing agent.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The contrast media of claim 1, further comprising about 0.005% w/v to about 40% w/v of a stabilizing agent.

18. (Previously Presented) The contrast media of claim 1, wherein the stabilizing agent comprises about 0.05% w/v to about 10% w/v xanthan gum.

19. (Currently Amended) The contrast media of claim 1, wherein the concentration of the sugar [alcohol] is about 0.005% w/v to about 60% w/v.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A contrast media for use in imaging an individual's anatomic segment comprising from about 0.01% to about 0.2% w/v of a barium-based compound; about 0.05% w/v to about 25% w/v of a stabilizing agent and about 0.005% w/v to about 70% w/v of a sugar [alcohol] selected from the group consisting of sorbitol, mannitol and xylitol.

24. (Currently Amended) The contrast media of claim 23, wherein the stabilizing agent comprises xanthan gum and the sugar [alcohol] comprises sorbitol.

25. (Previously Presented) The contrast media of claim 23, comprising about 0.1% w/v to about 0.2% w/v barium-based compound; about 0.05% w/v to about 1% w/v xanthan gum and about 0.05% w/v to about 5% w/v sorbitol.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) The contrast media of claim 23, comprising about 0.1% w/v to about 10% w/v of a stabilizing agent.

28. (Withdrawn) The contrast media of claim 23, wherein the contrast agent comprises gadolinium based compound.

29. (Currently Amended) The contrast media of claim 23, comprising about 0.1% w/v to about 45%w/v of a sugar [alcohol] selected from the group consisting of sorbitol, mannitol and xylitol.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) The contrast media of claim 31, wherein the [polysaccharide] sugar is sorbitol.

33. (Currently Amended) The contrast media of claim 23, comprising about 0.01% w/v to about [0.5%] 0.2% w/v barium-based compound; about 0.1% w/v to about 10% w/v xanthan gum and about 1% w/v to about 15% w/v sorbitol.

34. (Currently Amended) A method for imaging an anatomic segment, tissue or organ inside an individual's body comprising: (a) administering a contrast media to an individual; said contrast media comprising about 0.01% w/v to about 0.2% w/v barium-based contrast agent and a sugar [alcohol] selected from the group consisting of sorbitol, mannitol and xylitol in an aqueous suspension, said contrast media having a Hounsfield value from about 0 to about 50 [and further comprising a sugar alcohol]; and (b) performing the diagnostic procedure on the individual during or after administering the contrast media to the individual.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the contrast media has a Hounsfield value from about 5 to about 50.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the Hounsfield value is about 10 to about 40.

37. (Original) The method of claim 34, wherein the Hounsfield value is about 5 to about 45.

38. (Original) The method of claim 34, wherein the Hounsfield value is about 15 to about 35.

39. (Original) The method of claim 34, wherein the Hounsfield value is about 20 to abut 30.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the concentration of the contrast agent is from about 0.01% w/v to about [0.5%] 0.2% w/v.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the concentration of the contrast agent is from about 0.1% w/v to about [0.5%] 0.2% w/v.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the concentration of the contrast agent is from about 0.1% w/v [or] to about 0.2% w/v.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the concentration of the contrast agent is 0.1% w/v or 0.2% w/v.

44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently Amended) A method of imaging an anatomic segment of an individual comprising the steps of: (a) administering a contrast media comprising about 0.01% w/v to about 0.2% w/v of a barium-based contrast agent and a sugar [alcohol] selected from the group consisting of sorbitol, mannitol and xylitol in an aqueous suspension; said contrast media having a Hounsfield value from about 0 to about 50; (b) conducting an imaging procedure to obtain the image of the individual's anatomic segment during or after administering the contrast media to the individual; and (c) generating the image of the anatomic segment.

46. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein at least a portion of the gastrointestinal tract is imaged.

47. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the small intestine is imaged.

48. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein the colon is imaged.

49. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the pancreas is imaged.

50. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the duodenum is imaged.

51. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the cecum is imaged.

52. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the bowel is imaged.

53. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the large intestine is imaged.

54. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the jejunum is imaged.

55. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the ileum is imaged.

56. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the appendix is imaged.

57. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the pancreas is imaged.

58. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the duodenum is imaged.

59. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the sigmoid is imaged.

60. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the rectum is imaged.

61. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein the stomach is imaged.

62. (Currently Amended) A method of diagnosing a disease in an individual comprising: (a) administering to said individual a contrast media comprising a contrast agent wherein said contrast agent comprises about 0.01% w/v to about 0.2% w/v of a barium-based compound and a sugar [alcohol] selected from the group consisting of sorbitol, mannitol and xylitol in an aqueous suspension; said contrast media having a Hounsfield value from about 0 to about 50; (2) conducting an imaging procedure to obtain the image of an individual's anatomic segment; (3) generating the image of the anatomic segment; and (4) evaluating the images to diagnose the presence of the disease.

63. (Original) The method of claim 62, wherein said disease is selected from the group consisting of ulcerations, lesions and tumors.

64. (Original) The method of claim 62, wherein said disease is cancer.

65. (Original) The method of claim 62, wherein said disease is inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's Disease, ulcerative colitis or irritable bowel syndrome.

66. (Original) The method of claim 62, wherein said disease is a disease of the pancreas, spleen, liver or gall bladder.

67. (Original) The method of claim 62, wherein said disease is a disease of the lymph nodes.

68. (Original) The method of claim 62, wherein said disease is a disease of the vascular system.

69. (Currently Amended) A method of delineating the lumen of an anatomic segment of an individual for a diagnostic procedure, said method comprising the steps of: (a) providing an aqueous suspension comprising about 0.01% w/v to about 0.2% w/v of a barium-based compound and a sugar [alcohol] selected from the group consisting essentially of sorbitol, mannitol and xylitol into the lumen of the individual's anatomic segment to facilitate delineation of the anatomic segment; said contrast media having a Houndsfield value from about 0 to about 50.

70. (Currently Amended) A method of distending an anatomic segment of an individual for a medical or diagnostic procedure comprising the steps of: (a) providing an aqueous suspension comprising about 0.01% w/v to about 0.2% w/v of a barium-based compound and a sugar [alcohol] selected from the group consisting essentially of sorbitol, mannitol and xylitol into the lumen of the individual's anatomic segment to facilitate distention of the anatomic segment; said contrast media having a Houndsfield value from about 0 to about 50.

71. (Withdrawn) The method of claims 69-70, wherein said anatomic segment is the gastrointestinal tract.

72. (Withdrawn) The method of claims 69-70, wherein said anatomic segment is the small intestine.

73. (Withdrawn) The method of claims 69-70, wherein said anatomic segment is the large intestine.

74. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 69 or 70, wherein said anatomic segment is the colon.

75. (Withdrawn) The method of claims 69-70, wherein said anatomic segment is the bowel.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 69 or 70, wherein, said contrast media has a Hounsfield value from about 0 to about 50.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 69 or 70, wherein the Hounsfield value is about 0 to about 50.

78. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 60 or 70, wherein the Hounsfield value is about 5 to about 45.

79. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 67 or 70, wherein the Hounsfield value is about 15 to about 35.

80. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 69 or 70, wherein the Hounsfield value is about 20 to about 30.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 69 or 70, wherein the concentration of the contrast agent from about 0.01% w/v to about [0.5%] 0.2% w/v.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 69 or 70, wherein the concentration of the contrast agent is from about 0.1% w/v to about [0.5%] 0.2% w/v.

83. (Canceled)

84. (Canceled)

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 69 or 70, wherein the concentration of the contrast agent is selected from the group consisting essentially of the contrast media of claim 1, wherein the concentration of the contrast agent is selected from the group consisting essential of 0.02%, 0.03%, 0.04%, 0.06%, 0.07%, 0.08%, 0.09%, 0.11%, 0.15%, or 0.2% w/v.